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on January 15, 2002

Rhonda Zaffino
Rhonda Zaffino

In re application of: **John L. Thomas**

U.S. Serial Number: 09/977,772

Art Unit: 1760

Examiner: To be assigned

Filing Date: October 15, 2001

Our Reference Number: 341901-1020

Title: **DEVICES FOR CLEANING AN EAR OF CORN AND METHODS**

The following is a list of documents enclosed:

Return Postcard

Information Disclosure Statement

IDS Form PTO-1449 (with copies of prior art citations A-F)

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TC 1700

Further, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 20-0778 for any additional fees required. The Commissioner is requested to credit any excess fee paid to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re: Application of:

John L. Thomas

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Group Art Unit: 1760

Serial No.: 09 977,772

Examiner: To be assigned

Filed: October 15, 2001

Docket No.: 341901-1020

For: **DEVICES FOR CLEANING AN EAR OF CORN AND METHODS****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and specifically:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(within Three months of filing national application, or date of entry of international application, or before
mailing date of first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
☐ Statement Under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), or
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before the final office action or notice of allowance, whichever
occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
☐ a \$180.00 petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
(Filed after final office action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the
issue fee)

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Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ _____. Please charge \$0.00 to deposit account 20-0778. At any time during the
pendency of this application, please charge any fees required to Deposit Account 20-0778 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. The
Commissioner is hereby requested to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

- ☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith *Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Citation* together with copies of
patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believes(s) may or may not
be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37
CFR 1.56. As required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a), a legible copy of each document is provided.
- ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and
other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in
37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent

The following rights are reserved by the Applicant(s): the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention
over any of the listed documents should they be applied as reference, and/or the right to prove that some of these documents
may not be prior art, and/or the right to prove that some of these documents may not be enabling for the teachings they purport

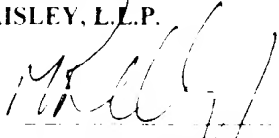
This statement should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the materials submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to conduct an independent and thorough review of the documents, and to form independent opinions as to their significance.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application and that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 to indicate the documents have been considered.

Respectfully Submitted,

**THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER
& RISLEY, L.L.P.**

By:


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Form PTO-1449


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
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 Attorney Docket No.
341901-1020

 Serial No.
09/977,772

 Applicant
John L. Thomas

 Filing Date
10/15/2001

 Group
1760
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Item	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A	6,305,276 B1	10 23 2001	Backus	99	514	
	B	5,097,758	3 24 1992	Fresh	99	590	
	C	2,326,873	8 17 1943	Meek	146	4	
	D	2,063,483	12 8 1936	Bulmer	130	9	
	E	1,127,548	2 9 1915	Turner	n/a	n/a	
	F	240,052	4 12 1881	Stover	n/a	n/a	
	G						
	H						
	I						
	J						
	K						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	L							
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	O							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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DATE CONSIDERED